28th August 1926]

Land Revenue, Survey and Settlement.

Kumki rights of landholders in South Kanara, etc.

*2408 Q.—Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Special Settlement Officer, No. IV Party, has written a letter to the Commissioner of Land Revenue and Settlement in which he has proposed to take away the Kumki rights of the landholders in South Kanara and elsewhere;

(b) whether the Government have asked the opinion of the landholders on this matter; and

(c) whether the Collector has sent any report on that, and if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay it on the table?

A.—The question of the regulation of Kumki privileges will doubtless be considered in connexion with the resettlement of the district; but no definite proposals have yet been made so far as the Government are aware.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"The question asked in clause (a) practically gives information to the Government. I can strongly assert that a letter has been communicated practically to all deputy collectors and other officers asking them to take away the Kumki rights of landholders in my district. I want to know whether this was done?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I think it is very possible that the settlement officer has been discussing this matter with local officials and landlords. But no proposals have been formulated so far as the Government are aware nor is it incumbent on the Government to accept such proposals if made."

Public Service.

Increase in the number of listed posts.

*2409 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the orders passed on the recommendation of the Lee Commission to raise the number of listed posts to 20 per cent of the superior posts and the action taken in pursuance of suchorders, if any?

A.—Final orders have not yet been received.

Attendance of clerks on holidays and Sundays.

*2410 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what orders there are as to attendance of clerks on Sundays and holidays; and

(b) whether any clerks are compelled by overwork to attend office on such days, and if so, what steps are taken to distribute the work evenly or to increase the establishment required?